

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A push pin device comprising:

a pin having a tip; and

a grasping member, wherein said pin extends from said grasping member; and

an outer member coupled to and ~~extending at least partially~~ forming a loop around said pin, wherein said tip of said pin is retracted inside of said outer member when said outer member is uncompressed, and wherein said tip of said pin is extended outside of said outer member when said outer member is compressed, wherein said outer member includes a first portion coupled to said grasping member, a second portion opposite said first portion, and protruding portions extending outwardly from said second portion on each side of said second portion, and wherein said first portion of said outer member engages said second portion when said pin is extended into a substrate such that said second portion of said outer member is deflected and applies an opposing force against said first portion.

2. (Original) The push pin device of claim 1 wherein said outer member provides an opposing force when said pin is extended.

3. (Original) The push pin device of claim 1 wherein said outer member includes an opening through which said pin passes when said outer member is compressed.

4. (Original) The push pin device of claim 1 wherein said outer member is elastically deformable.

Claims 5 – 9 (canceled)

10. (Original) The push pin device of claim 1 wherein said outer member includes at least one hinge point on at least one side portion such that said outer member bends at said hinge point as said pin is compressed.

11. (Currently Amended) The push pin device of claim 1 [[7]] wherein said grasping member has a generally cylindrical shape.

12. (Currently amended) A push pin device comprising:

a pin having a tip; and

an outer member coupled to and ~~extending at least partially~~ forming a loop around said pin, wherein said pin extends from a first portion of said outer member toward a second portion of said outer member, and wherein said first portion of said outer member contacts said second portion of said outer member when said outer member is compressed such that said second portion is deflected and applies an opposing force against said first portion when said pin is extended into a substrate, wherein said outer member includes protruding portions extending outwardly from said second portion on each side of said second portion, and wherein said outer

member includes hinge points at each side portion such that said outer member bends at said hinge points as said pin is compressed.

13. (Original) The push pin device of claim 12 wherein said outer member includes an opening through which said pin passes when said outer member is compressed.

14. (Original) The push pin device of claim 12 wherein said outer member is elastically deformable.

Claims 15-16 (Canceled)

17. (Original) The push pin device of claim 12 further comprising a grasping member, wherein said pin extends from said grasping member.

18. (Currently amended) The push pin device of claim ~~17~~ 16 wherein said grasping member has a generally cylindrical shape.

Claim 19. (Canceled)